

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/918,642

Examiner

Kevin Schubert

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/27/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 6/27/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

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Examiner's Amendment

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Juan Marquez (Reg #34,072) on 8/7/06 and again on 8/18/06.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Withdrawn claims 2-4 are cancelled by Examiner's amendment.

In line 12 of claim 9 (i.e. line 1 of part (2)), the letter "m" between "and" and "columns" is replaced with "n".

In line 29 of claim 9 (i.e. line 4 of part (5) of claim 9), the word "the" in the phrase "the nonsingular matrix" is replaced with "a". Thus, the phrase now reads "a nonsingular matrix".

In line 29 of claim 9 (i.e. line 4 of part (5) of claim 9), the word "the" in the phrase "the permutation matrix" is replaced with "a". Thus, the phrase now reads "a permutation matrix".

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 9 is deemed allowable over the prior art. More specifically, independent claim 9 recites an application service provider system which is not found in the prior art, nor deemed an obvious combination over the prior art reviewed. Prior to the instant claims (submitted 7/27/06), independent claim 9 was rejected by Matsumoto in view of England. While Matsumoto is still believed to teach a similar application service provider system, Matsumoto merely teaches solving an optimization problem using permutation matrices and does not provide the level of detail contained in Applicant's instant claims, especially claim 9, parts (3), (4), and (5). As the calculation technique employed by Applicant is clearly not disclosed by Matsumoto and the prior art reviewed does not appear to render the calculation technique obvious, Examiner believes claim 9 is patentably distinct over the prior art. For at least this reason, Examiner allows claim 9.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Schubert whose telephone number is (571) 272-4239. The examiner can normally
5 be reached on M-F 7:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application
10 Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative
15 or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KS


EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER